

# TEXAS TOPICS.

## News From All Parts of the Imperial State.

**Helping Confederates.**  
Waco, Tex., July 31.—County Judge J. N. Gallagher has employed a secretary at his own expense to assist him in the clerical work, which falls to his lot in consequence of the act entitled "An act to carry into effect the amendment to the constitution of Texas providing that aid may be granted disabled and dependent Confederate soldiers and sailors and their widows." A steady stream of applications is being handled, many of whom are worthy veterans, or widows of veterans, who find considerable difficulty in securing legal proof that they come within the provision made by the state for the relief of Confederate veterans. Judge Gallagher fills out applications and hears testimony daily of persons who fought in Virginia, having enlisted in that state and having moved to Texas after the close of the war. It is necessary, under the law, to prove by two persons whom the county judge credits that the applicant is entitled to relief under the pension act passed by the Texas legislature at its last session. In case the applicant can not produce two witnesses whose knowledge of his case enables them to make the necessary oath recourse is had to depositions taken in distant states which is an expensive process, too costly for the purses of some of the veterans and widows of veterans. After going over all the formalities as clerk, Judge Gallagher writes out his certificate as county judge and the commissioners' court acts upon the entire record, which the county judge furnishes. At the approaching term next month the county commissioners' court will pass upon between sixty and seventy applicants on whose cases Judge Gallagher has acted favorably. In the list are Georgians, Alabamians, Mississippians, North and South Carolinians, Virginians, indeed representatives of all the states which once constituted the southern Confederacy, being persons who removed to Texas after the surrender of the armies of the lost cause.

**Killed Himself.**  
Fort Worth, Tex., July 31.—Mrs. Marie Capert, aged about 40 years and the mother of five children, suicided last night at about 10:45 o'clock at the family residence, 1108 East First street. A .38-caliber pistol was used in the commission of the desperate deed.

She was the wife of F. P. Capert. The deceased had been very despondent throughout the entire day. Yesterday afternoon she went to the Catholic cemetery and came back and complained that she was suffering pains about the head.

Two families reside at the home and about half an hour before the fatal pistol shot was heard Mrs. Capert was in the front room with her friends.

Mr. Capert had retired with some of the younger children into the bedroom, which adjoins the front room, and when Mrs. Capert took her departure from the front room she passed through the room occupied by her husband and passed to the back room where she secured the pistol and, standing in front of a bureau, sent the bullet through her heart, expiring instantly.

An examination of the pistol last night shows that only one of the five chambers was loaded and that the shell remained.

When discovered the unfortunate woman was in a stooping position and she was gently removed to the middle room where the body was viewed by Justice Milam shortly before 12 o'clock.

Mrs. Capert came from France to this country a number of years ago, landing in New Orleans, and she was married about eleven years ago to her husband in that city.

**A False Report.**  
San Angelo, Tex., July 31.—The statement which appeared in a paper of the 28th to the effect that the Black Jack gang had appeared in San Angelo and defied the authorities is ridiculously false. This gang has not been seen in this vicinity. Had they made their appearance they would have been taken care of by the local officers without the aid of the rangers. The publication of such a false report has caused considerable indignation among the officers.

**To Build a Church.**  
Fort Worth, Tex., July 31.—Rev. Junius B. French of the Broadway Presbyterian church is now in New York. It is learned from a thoroughly reliable source that his mission there is to confer with a very wealthy gentleman, who has heretofore stated that any time Dr. French's congregation determined to build a new church a liberal donation could be expected from him.

**Knights of Honor Convene.**  
Temple, Tex., Aug. 2.—The grand lodge, Knights of Honor, was in session here yesterday. The attendance was somewhat light, comparatively, but at the opening session 159 lodges were represented, and with the grand officers the total was close to 300.

The session was called to order at 2 o'clock in Cheever hall, Grand Dictator R. W. Hudson in the chair.

The officers present were as follows: R. W. Hudson, grand dictator; Mathos B. Stegar, grand vice dictator; John B. Wolf, grand treasurer; J. S. Strother, grand chaplain; Will A. Hassell, grand guide; Joseph Schuber, grand guardian; Ed R. Kone, grand past dictator; Tillman Smith and S. J. Kendrick, supreme representatives.

Committee on credentials was appointed as follows: J. F. Brinkerhoff, Charles Miller, E. H. Hopson, J. A. McKinney, W. J. Johnson.

Monta J. Moore was appointed grand assistant dictator, F. H. Bailey grand reporter, R. P. Jones grand sentinel, S. J. Kendrick on committee on laws, Joseph Ebinger on committee on German work.

The last appointments were to fill vacancies caused by non-attendance of regular officers.

The report of the credentials committee was adopted.

The reports of standing committees were handed in and numerous amendments and resolutions concerning the laws of the order were offered. These were all referred to appropriate committees, and action will be taken on same to-day.

The local committee has a number of entertainments for the visitors, and a supper was given them last night. Judge W. D. Cochran of this city delivered the welcome address.

**Hig Cattle Deal.**

Fort Worth, Tex., Aug. 2.—George T. Reynolds of Albany was here yesterday and closed what is said to be the largest midsummer deal in cattle and ranch property ever consummated in this market. Mr. Reynolds purchased for the firm of Reynolds Bros. of Albany, from Roe & Hardwick of this city, 5000 head of stock cattle at \$18 per head, including this year's calves; also all the horses and improvements on the latter firm's ranch at \$10,000, and 100 sections of leased land in Jeff Davis county. The Roe & Hardwick ranch joins the Reynolds Bros. "South Africa" ranch, in Jeff Davis county, and the purchasers by their deal yesterday will now have a 400,000-acre pasture in that county.

Mr. Reynolds also purchased the Johnson & Hogbin and the E. O. Lochhausen ranches in Reeves county, near Pecos City, at \$20,000 for the ranch improvements. Included in this trade are 1000 head of stock cattle, the property of Johnson & Hogbin, at \$17 per head, counting this year's calves, and 2000 head of the Lochhausen stock cattle, at \$17 per head, including calves of 1899.

In addition to these transactions, Mr. Reynolds bought from Crowley & Garrett 1000 head of stock cattle in Reeves county at \$20.

The transactions enumerated will reach \$250,000, and are the subject of much talk in local cattle circles, by reason of the agitation among cattle men of the feasibility of the Loving cattle syndicate.

**Y. M. C. A. Opened.**  
Temple, Tex., Aug. 2.—The Santa Fe railroad Y. M. C. A. building was formally opened yesterday. It was a grand day for the city and a most significant event in Y. M. C. A. circles. The building is the first of a series of similar ones to be built in Texas, and it is the first practical step taken by the Santa Fe to provide for the idle hours of its employees.

**A Narrow Escape.**  
San Antonio, Tex., Aug. 2.—Camp C. . . the new camp of the thirty-third infantry, came near having a tragedy enacted on the first day of its existence. The boys had not been in camp long before they discovered an inviting swimming hole in the river back of the stables and numerous swimming parties made their way to it.

In one party was Christen Hoy, a young recruit who arrived yesterday morning from Houston. In making a dive he was caught under a tangled mass of drift at the bottom.

Falling to come up caused alarm among his companions, and W. D. Rhea also from Houston, who had arrived at camp with Hoy, went down in search of him. Hoy was found and quickly extricated, but had been under water so long he was unconscious.

Rhea brought him to the surface and with the assistance of J. T. Robinson pulled him up the bank.

Messengers were dispatched to camp for aid and Lieut. J. C. Greenwalt, assistant surgeon, hastened to the spot. After a few minutes' work Hoy was brought around, but was quite weak and very nervous as a result of his experience.

**Crude Oil Advancing.**  
Corpus Christi, Tex., Aug. 2.—Mr. J. C. Cullinan of the Pipe Line and Refining companies returned from the east Monday night, and one of his first acts was to post a bulletin in the pipe line office, giving notice that from and after yesterday until further notice the pipe line would pay 75 cents for Corpus Christi crude oil. This is 5 cents per barrel more than has been heretofore paid in this market, and adds to the daily receipts of producers \$150. It is predicted that the price will reach \$1 per barrel before Jan. 1.

## EVENTS OF EVERYWHERE.

Col. Edmund Pendleton died at Lexington, Va.

Allen Thomas Wells died at Denver, Col., the other day.

The strike in the finishing mills at Youngstown, O., has been settled.

The Southwestern Freight committee met at Eureka Springs, Ark.

The St. Louis Athletic park was sold at auction a few days ago.

Mr. W. A. McBride, grand lecturer for the Indian Territory, held a Masonic school at Durant, I. T.

The cruiser Marblehead arrived at Coquimbo, on its way to San Francisco.

A cyclone struck the eastern portion of Laporte, Ind., wrecking several buildings.

Lieut. Col. Ernst H. Garlington has been ordered to Manila as inspector general.

The normal school at Durant, I. T., has about twenty-five teachers ready for examination.

Six hundred pressers of New York, employed in the garment trade, struck and organized a union.

Permanent organization of the Southwestern industrial league has been perfected at Atlanta, Ga.

All the iron furnaces of Chattanooga, Tenn., district have announced an advance of \$1 per ton in pig iron.

Henry Patton, colored, had his left leg mashed off by the engine of a Santa Fe passenger train at Oklahoma City, Ok.

The Politique Coloniale of Paris states that Russia and Japan are armistice with a view to a possible conflict in Korea.

An increase of 25 cents per day in wages has been granted all the moulders employed in the foundries in Youngstown, O.

The C. H. & D. elevator, located in East Toledo, was totally destroyed by fire, and the loss on building and contents will figure nearly \$1,000,000.

The war department has made public reports received from Gen. Lloyd Wheaton, dated March 21, giving details of the operations under his command in the Philippines.

The strike of freight handlers of the Pennsylvania railroad in Jersey City, which was threatened to take place, failed to materialize. It is now believed the men will continue to work at their former wages.

The members of the Sunflower Mining company, who left Fort Scott, Kan., for Alaska eighteen months ago, sailing in their own steamer from San Francisco, are stranded at St. Michaels on their way home.

Minister Hart at Bogota has telegraphed the department of state that Randolph, the American charged with murder, has been sentenced to fourteen years' imprisonment, which is the same sentence imposed as the result of a previous trial. An appeal will be taken.

At the launching of the British battleship Vengeance at Harrow-in-Furness, Lieut. Dawson announced that Vickers Sons & Maxim, limited, had received an order from the United States for a number of six-inch guns, which were to be adopted for use by the American navy.

The carriage trimmers of the Brown carriage works, Cincinnati, O., have struck against a reduction of 15 per cent in wages which went into effect a few days ago. They have good organization, and unless there is some adjustment a general strike will affect the carriage works in the city.

Property owners in territory recently annexed to Chicago have combined to test the constitutionality of the law under which the combination known as the People's Gas company was effected.

The committee on plan and scope of the Dewey reception committee held a meeting in New York at the city hall. It was decided to have a display of fireworks in all of the five boroughs at points to be designated, with an electrical display three nights at the New York and Brooklyn halls.

United States District Attorney Burnett, at New York, has just examined the papers in the case of Mrs. Phyllis Dodge, accused of trying to smuggle \$600 worth of diamonds, and finds that there is not sufficient cause to bring criminal action.

As a precautionary measure, Secretary Gage has detailed Acting Assistant Surgeon S. H. Hogen of the marine hospital service to duty in the office of the United States consul at Vera Cruz, Mexico, for the purpose of inspecting vessels desiring to clear for the port.

The transport Sherman sailed from Manila for San Francisco via Nagasaki and Yokohama, with the California infantry, consisting of fifty-eight officers and 950 men, two batteries of the California heavy artillery, nine officers and eighty-six men and 75 discharged soldiers of other regiments.

News from Nijni Novgorod says that a cargo and a passenger steamer collided on the river Volga, and that the steamer sank, drowning several passengers. The captain of the cargo ship has been arrested for disregarding signals.

# PHANTOM SHIP

—OR—  
The Flying Dutchman.

—BY CAPTAIN MARRYAT.

## CHAPTER XVI.—(Continued.)

Philip made no reply; he felt a respect even for Capt. Barents' misplaced regard for the vessel. They made but little way, for the swell was rather against them, and the raft was deep in the water. The day dawned, and the appearance of the weather was not favorable; it promised a return of the gale. Already a breeze ruffled the surface of the water, and the swell appeared to increase rather than go down. The sky was overcast, and the horizon thick. Philip looked out for the land, but could not perceive it, for there was a haze on the horizon, so that he could not see more than five miles. He felt that to gain the shore before the coming night was necessary for the preservation of so many individuals, of whom more than sixty were women and children, who, without any nourishment, were sitting on a frail raft, immersed in the water. No land in sight—a gale coming on, and in all probability a heavy sea and dark night. The chance was indeed desperate, and Philip was miserable—most miserable—when he reflected that so many innocent beings might, before the next morning, be consigned to a watery tomb—and why?—yes, there was the feeling—that although Philip could reason against, he never could conquer; for his own life he cared nothing; even the idea of his beloved Amine was nothing in the balance of these moments. The only point which sustained him was the knowledge that he had his duty to perform, and, in the full exercise of his duty, he recovered himself.

"Land ahead!" was now cried out by Krantz, who was in the headmost boat, and the news was received with a shout of joy from the raft and the boats. The anticipation and the hope the news gave was like manna in the wilderness, and the poor women on the raft, drenched sometimes above the waist by the swell of the sea, clasped the children in their arms still closer and cried, "My darling, you shall be saved."

Philip stood upon the stern-sheets to survey the land, and he had the satisfaction of finding that it was not five miles distant, and a ray of hope warmed his heart. The breeze now had gradually increased and rippled the water. The quarter from which the wind came was neither favorable nor adverse, being on the beam. Had they had sails for the boat, it would have been otherwise; but they had been stowed away and could not be procured. The sight of land naturally rejoiced them all, and the seamen in the boat cheered and double-banked the oars to increase their way, but the towing of a large raft sunk under water was no easy task, and they did not, with all their exertions, advance more than half a mile an hour.

## CHAPTER XVII.

Until noon they continued their exertions not without success; they were not three miles from the land, but as the sun passed the meridian a change took place; the breeze blew strong, the swell of the sea rose rapidly, and the raft was often so deeply immersed in the waves as to alarm them for the safety of those upon her. Their way was proportionately retarded, and by 3 o'clock they had not gained half a mile from where they had been at noon. The men, not having had refreshment of any kind during the labor and excitement of so many hours, began to flag in their exertions. The wish for water was expressed by all—from the child who appealed to its mother to the seaman who strained at the oar. Philip did all he could to encourage the men, but finding themselves so near to the land, and so overcome with fatigue, and that the raft in tow would not allow them to approach their haven, they murmured, and talked of the necessity of casting loose the raft and looking out for themselves. A feeling of self-prevalence, and they were mutinous; but Philip expostulated with them, and, out of respect for him, they continued their exertions for another hour, when a circumstance occurred which decided the question, upon which they had recommenced a debate.

The increased swell and the fresh breeze had so beat about and tossed the raft that it was with difficulty, for some time, that its occupants could hold themselves on it. A loud shout, mingled with screams, attracted the attention of those in the boat, and Philip, looking back, perceived that the lashings of the raft had yielded to the force of the waves, and that it had separated amidships. The scene was agonizing; husbands were separated from their wives and children—each floating away from each other—for the part of the raft which was still towed by the boats had already left the other far astern. The women rose up and screamed; some, more frantic, dashed into the water between them, and attempted to gain the floating wreck upon which their husbands stood, and sank before they could be assisted. But the horror increased—one lashing having given way, all the rest soon followed; and, before the boats could turn and give assistance, the sea was strewn with the spars which composed the raft, with men, women and children clinging to them. Loud were the

yells of despair and the shrieks of the women as they embraced their offspring and in attempting to save them were lost themselves. The spars of the raft, still close together, were hurled one upon the other by the swell, and many found death by being jammed between them. Although all the boats hastened to their assistance, there was so much difficulty and danger in forcing them between the spars that but few were saved, and even those few were more than the boats could well take in. The seamen and a few soldiers were picked up, but all the females and the children had sunk beneath the waves.

The effect of this catastrophe may be imagined, but hardly described. The seamen who had debated as to casting them adrift to perish wept as they pulled toward the shore. Philip was overcome. He covered his face and remained for some time without giving directions, heedless of what passed.

It was now five o'clock in the evening; the boats had cast off the tow-lines, and vied with each other in their exertions. Before the sun had set they had arrived at the beach, and were safely landed in the little sand bay into which they had steered; for the wind was off the shore and there was no surf. The boats were hauled up and the exhausted men lay down on the sands still warm with the heat of the sun, and forgetting that they had neither eaten nor drunk for so long a time, they were soon fast asleep. Captain Barents, Philip and Krantz, as soon as they had seen the boats secured, held a short consultation, and were then glad to follow the example of the seamen; harassed and worn out with the fatigue of the last twenty-four hours, their senses were soon drowned in oblivion.

For many hours they all slept soundly, dreamed of water and awoke to the sad reality that they were tormented with thirst, and were on a sandy beach with the salt waves mocking them; but they reflected how many of their late companions had been swallowed up, and felt thankful that they had been spared.

They were not more than fifty miles from Table Bay; and although they had no sails, the wind was in their favor. Philip pointed out to them how useless it was to remain, when before morning they would, in all probability, arrive at where they would obtain all they required. The advice was approved of and acted upon; the boats were shoved off and the oars resumed. So tired and exhausted were the men that their oars dipped mechanically into the water, for there was no strength left to be applied; it was not until the next morning at daylight that they had arrived opposite False Bay and they had still many miles to pull. The wind in their favor had done almost all—the men could do little or nothing.

Encouraged, however, by the sight of land which they knew, they rallied; and about noon they pulled, exhausted to the beach at the bottom of Table Bay, near to which were the houses and the fort protecting the settlers, who had for some years resided there. They landed close to where a broad rivulet at that season (but a torrent in the winter) poured its stream into the bay. At the sight of fresh water some of the men dropped their oars, threw themselves into the sea when out of their depth—others when the water was above their waists yet they did not arrive so soon as the ones who waited till the boat struck the beach and jumped out upon dry land. And then they threw themselves into the rivulet, which coursed over the shingle, about five or six inches in depth, allowing the refreshing stream to pour into their mouths till they could hold no more, immersing their hot hands and rolling in it with delight.

As soon as they had satisfied the most pressing of all wants they rose dripping from the stream and walked up to the houses of the factory, the inhabitants of which, perceiving that boats had landed when there was no vessel in the bay, naturally supposed that some disaster had happened, and were walking down to meet them. Their tragical history was soon told. The thirty-six men that stood before them were all that were left of nearly three hundred souls embarked, and they had been more than two days without food. At this intimation no further questions were asked by the considerate settlers until the hunger of the sufferers had been appeased, when the narrative of their sufferings was fully detailed by Philip and Krantz.

We must pass over the space of two months, during which the wrecked seamen were treated with kindness by the settlers, and at the expiration of which a small brig arrived at the bay and took in refreshments; she was homeward bound, with a full cargo, and, being chartered by the company, could not refuse to receive on board the crew of the Vrow Katerina. Philip, Krantz and the seamen embarked; but Captain Barents remained behind to settle at the Cape. They shook hands and parted—Philip

promising to execute Barents's commission, which was to turn his money into articles most useful to a settler, and have them sent out by the first fleet which should sail from the Zuyder Zee. But this commission it was not Philip's good fortune to execute. The brig, named the Wilhelmina, sailed and soon arrived at St. Helena. After watering, she proceeded on her voyage. They had made the Western Isles, and Philip was consoling himself with the anticipation of soon joining his Amine, when to the northward of the islands they met with a furious gale, before which they were obliged to seek for many days, with the vessel's head to the southeast; and as the wind abated and they were able to haul to it, they fell in with a Dutch fleet of five vessels, commanded by an admiral, which had left Amsterdam more than two months, and had been buffeted about by contrary gales for the major part of that period. Cold, fatigue and bad provisions had brought on the scurvy, and the ships were so weakly manned that they could hardly navigate them. When the captain of the Wilhelmina reported to the admiral that he had part of the crew of the Vrow Katerina on board, he was ordered to send them immediately to assist in navigating his crippled fleet. Remonstrance was useless. Philip had but time to write to Amine, acquainting her with his misfortunes and disappointment; and, confiding the letter to his wife, as well as his narrative of the loss of the Vrow Katerina for the directors to the charge of the captain of the Wilhelmina, he hastened to pack up his effects, and repaired on board of the admiral's ship with Krantz and the crew. To them were added six of the men belonging to the Wilhelmina, whom the admiral insisted on retaining; and the brig, having received the admiral's dispatches, was then permitted to continue her voyage.

The admiral sent for Philip into his cabin, and having heard his narrative of the loss of the Vrow Katerina, he ordered him to go on board the commodore's ship as captain, giving the rank of commodore to the captain at present on board of her; Krantz was retained on board his own vessel as second captain, for by Philip's narrative the admiral perceived at once that they were both good officers and brave men.

(To be continued.)

## RING PHAROAH GAVE JOSEPH.

Interesting Relic in the Possession of a Jerseyman.

Prof. John Lansing, of New Brunswick, who has been spending the winter in this city, will leave soon for Colorado, where he expects to live for a considerable time for the benefit of his health. He is a very scholarly and accomplished gentleman, being a minister of the Dutch Reformed church. He was born in the city of Damascus, Palestine, in "the street which is called Straight," his father being a resident missionary there. Prof. Lansing for 13 years lived in Egypt and is the master of nine languages. He has many curious and valuable relics of Egypt, stones and jewels of the ancient Pharaohs. He has what is thought by the best Egyptologists to be the identical gold ring set with a stone, which Khaf Nub, the Pharaoh, gave to Joseph when he made him prime minister over all Egypt, says an Atlantic City paper. It is a curious old jewel and was worn on the thumb. It was found at Memphis 15 or 20 years ago in the coffin of a mummy. He has a walking stick and many kinds of sacred beetles bearing carved inscriptions telling of the reign in which they were the official emblem. He has a silk crocheted cap which was taken from a mummy and is several thousand years old, rare amber beads, the precious images of cats, and ancient symbols which have been unearthed in the land of the pyramids.

## MILTON'S STAIRCASE.

Brought to Philadelphia, but it Has Since Been Lost.

"Where is the poet Milton's staircase?" asks the Philadelphia Record. "This staircase was brought from London by Richard Rush and built into his country home, named Sydenham, which was located at what is now Columbia avenue and Sixteenth street. A small street of the same name, Sydenham, marks the place. Mr. Rush was United States minister to England when Milton's house was torn down to make room for modern improvement. Being an admirer of the author of 'Paradise Lost,' Mr. Rush bought the old-time staircase and had it erected in his home and inscribed with a silver plate setting forth the dates and facts. Upon the death of Mr. Rush his estate was divided among his children and the real estate soon came into the market for building lots. Sydenham house was torn down and the antique Milton staircase doubtless fell to some one of the heirs. It would be interesting to learn where this relic found its final shrine. Sydenham was a quaint old place, just opposite the country seat of Judge Stroud. It has a variety of odd rooms entered by invisible doors, and much antique furniture, massive silver and many old portraits."

## Dog Adopts Pig.

Savannah News: Quite a curious freak can be seen at the home of A. Proctor, at Summerfield, who has a dog that has adopted a motherless pig. The mother will fight her own offspring to nurse the pig.

Each man is a hero and an oracle to somebody.—Emerson.